Suggestions from ILO for Child Labour

5892. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether ILO has suggested any measures in 1995-96 against child labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any financial assistance has been offered by ILO to implement reduction of child labour; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Government of India's effort for elimination of child labour is being supplemented by ILO through their International Programme for Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) and Child Labour Action and Support Programme (CLASP). While IPEC seeks to encourage, promote and support action oriented programmes for elimination of child labour by Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) and other institutions, CLASP aims at strengthening the country's capabilities to implement the *National Child Labour Policy*. Major activities proposed under the programmes for the year 1995, inter alia, include the implementation of action programmes for elimination of child labour, training of teachers, Labour Inspectors & NGOs, promote generation of awareness against child labour and evaluation of National Child Labour Projects. The work plan prepared by ILO in respect of these programmes for the year 1995 have been approved by the Steering Committee for implementation.

(c) and (d) the funds provided for India under IPEC for the biennium 1994-95 is US $ 1.4 million. The funds provided under the CLASP Project is US $.83 million.

Bonded Labourers

5893. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) how many bonded labourers have been identified during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) how many bonded labourers have been rehabilitated during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95 under the centrally sponsored scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) Since inception of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, 2,51,424 bonded labourers have been identified and released upto 31.3.93, out of which about 6,000 bonded labourers are awaiting rehabilitation. During 1993-94, 2,497 bonded labourers were rehabilitated and during 1994-95, 1,473 bonded labourers were rehabilitated upto 28th February, 1995.

Implementation of IOL convention against child labour in the Country

5894. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India signed the International Labour Organisation Convention against child and forced labour in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these are still rampant in the country;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has issued orders to Labour Inspectors restraining them from inspecting shops and establishmens employing child and forced labour; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in such cases?